

# MichiganGenealogist

Genealogy news from the Department of History, Arts and Libraries

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**A**s the weather heats up, so do the family history activities at the Library of Michigan. The Michigan Death Records digitization project is well on its way. All of the films have been sent to Utah for scanning and indexing. I would like to thank everyone for your patience while the films are out of the building. We will have the microfilm back on the shelves in the early fall. Our plan is to have the database available for searching by Family History Month in October. We are very excited about opening up almost 1 million death records for researchers free of charge.

The Library is host to numerous construction projects this summer. Repair work is being done on the building's roof and the entryway closest to the parking lot. The building will remain open to the public during all of the construction projects. If portions of the collection need to be closed for any of the work being done on the building, we will post a note on the Library's Web page. We appreciate your understanding as we complete the various building repairs.

Plans are well under way for the 2008 Abrams Genealogy Seminar, "Piecing Together Our Past," scheduled for Friday, July 25 and Saturday, July 26. The seminar will be held in Lansing at the Michigan Library and Historical Center. The keynote speaker will be Dr. George K. Schweitzer, one of the leading genealogical speakers in the country. His presentations are entertaining and educational at the same time. If you are coming from out of town to attend the seminar, the Sheraton Lansing Hotel is offering a discounted rate of \$89 for genealogists. Let the hotel staff know that you are attending the Abrams Seminar when you register to receive the discounted rate. Please see the featured article in this issue of the newsletter for more details on the seminar. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this year's seminar.

Take time this summer to travel to various destinations in Michigan that may yield records concerning your family. We always hope that you will decide to make the Library of Michigan one of your destinations. Take advantage of all of the resources our state has to offer. Is there a courthouse you need to visit? Has the cemetery that your great-great-grandfather was buried in been transcribed? Maybe an ancestor worked in the copper mines in the Upper Peninsula? Family history offers us a great excuse to explore Michigan and discover our state's unique cultural heritage. If you have any concerns regarding the death records digitization project, 2008 Abrams Seminar or the various construction projects, please give us a call at (517) 373-1300 or e-mail us at [librarian@michigan.gov](mailto:librarian@michigan.gov).

Happy searching!

Randy Riley  
Special Collections Manager, Library of Michigan

# Piece Together Your Ancestral Puzzles: Abrams Genealogy Seminar to Be Held July 25-26

*by Kris Rzepczynski, Michigan/genealogy coordinator, Library of Michigan*

The Library of Michigan is pleased to announce the 2008 Abrams Genealogy Seminar, "Piecing Together Our Past," to be held at the Michigan Library and Historical Center on Friday and Saturday, July 25-26.

For this third annual event, we are thrilled to be featuring Dr. George K. Schweitzer, one of the country's most popular genealogical speakers and author of a number of genealogical books. Dr. Schweitzer's keynote address on Saturday morning, co-sponsored by the Ingham County Genealogical Society, will be "Tracing Ancestors Across the Atlantic;" he will give another program later in the day, "Civil War Genealogy." Those familiar with Dr. Schweitzer will recall that he gives his programs in period costume.

The Abrams Seminar represents a unique opportunity for researchers to spend two days at the Library and learn about any number of topics, including newspapers, Michigan vital records, city directories, Michigan township research and much more. A continuing feature from previous seminars is a library and archives research track, in which Michigan facilities with extensive genealogical and historical holdings outline their collections. Participating libraries and archives include the Library of Michigan, the Archives of Michigan, the Detroit Public Library, the Public Libraries of Saginaw and the Loutit District Library in Grand Haven.

## Friday, July 25

**12:30 - 1 p.m.**

A. Archives of Michigan Tour

**1 - 1:30 p.m.**

B. Library of Michigan Tour

**1:30 - 2 p.m.**

C. Library of Michigan Tour

**2:15 - 3:15 p.m.**

### **D. Finding Revolutionary War Ancestors at the Library of Michigan**

presented by Edwina Morgan, Library of Michigan

From Maine to Georgia and all the way to Illinois, the Library of Michigan has materials to help you research your Revolutionary ancestors.

### **E. Genealogical Research at the Library of Michigan**

presented by Randy Riley, Library of Michigan

*continued*

The Library of Michigan houses one of the country's largest genealogical collections. Learn about the Library's geographic areas of emphasis, key and unique resources, and how to maximize your research time here.

**3:30 - 4:30 p.m.**

**F. Coloring Your Ancestors Alive!**

presented by Karen Krugman, professional researcher  
Bring your ancestors to life with color: Add more than just names and dates to your genealogy files.

**G. Researching in Michigan Townships**

presented by John Castle, Ingham County Genealogical Society  
Examine several dozen types of township records. What is in these old records that might provide details of the lives of our ancestors, and where do we find them? Original grassroots records have been stored in township halls for the past 170-plus years, just waiting to be discovered. A genealogical gold mine!

**H. Treasures of the Archives of Michigan**

presented by Robert Garrett, Archives of Michigan  
Treasures can sometimes be hidden in plain sight. Learn about the genealogical resources available at the Archives of Michigan—including Michigan naturalization records, property records, military records, photographs and more—and how to access them online and in the Archives' reading room.

**Saturday, July 26**

**9:30 - 10:45 a.m.**

I. Welcome and Presentation of Library of Michigan Genealogy Appreciation Award

**Keynote address, co-sponsored by the Ingham County Genealogical Society: "Tracing Ancestors Back Across the Atlantic" by Dr. George K. Schweitzer**

**11 a.m. - noon**

**J. Seeking Michigan Death Records? A New Digitization Project**

presented by Kris Rzepczynski, Library of Michigan  
The Library of Michigan is digitizing its collection of Michigan death records from 1897 to 1920. Totalling nearly 1 million records, these images will be free and fully searchable on the in-the-works Seeking Michigan Web site. See what content will be available and catch a glimpse of what the site will become as additional genealogical resources are added.

**K. Genealogical Gems of the Public Libraries of Saginaw**

presented by John Sheridan, Public Libraries of Saginaw  
The Local History and Genealogical Collection of the Public Libraries of

*continued*



Saginaw has become one of the premier local history collections in the Midwest, serving students and specialists equally well in the fields of genealogy and Saginaw history with more than 18,000 books, microforms, archive collections and periodicals.

**Noon - 1 p.m.**

Lunch

**1 - 2 p.m.**

**L. Civil War Genealogy**

presented by Dr. George K. Schweitzer

**2:15 - 3:15 p.m.**

**M. Newspapers: Three Generations “In the News”**

presented by Ceil Wendt Jensen, certified genealogist

Newspapers are a great resource for information on the life and times of your ancestors. Follow a family for three generations in community and regional newspapers. Ideas on how to use current global newspapers to obtain information will be included.

**N. Your Best Find: Share Your Success Stories**

presented by Gloriane Peck, Library of Michigan

Celebrate your greatest research success by sharing your story with fellow genealogists. Let this discussion inspire you to revisit brick walls as you hear how others uncovered the paths of their own elusive ancestors.

**O. Local History as Context: Resources for Genealogists**

presented by Mark Bowden, Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library

How does one go beyond compiling names and dates on a pedigree? Discover the many resources available for placing your ancestor's lives in historical context.

**3:30 - 4:30 p.m.**

**P. City Directories as Research Tools**

presented by Charles Hagler, Library of Michigan

Explore how information found in city directories can assist you in your genealogical and historical research, as well as how they can provide a snapshot of your family's place in the local community.

**Q. Researching at the Loutit District Library in Grand Haven**

presented by Jeanette Weiden, Loutit District Library

Learn what makes the Loutit District Library's Local History and Genealogy Department unique, such as the digitization of the photograph collection and oral histories. Also learn about the library's ongoing volunteer projects of indexing birth, marriage and obituary information from the *Grand Haven Tribune*.

## Registration

Registration is \$40. This includes attendance for the seminar and keynote address, a boxed lunch on Saturday and a seminar syllabus. Registration opens one hour before each day's event.

Ingham County Genealogical Society members are eligible for a discounted registration rate of \$25. Additional information about ICGS can be found at <http://www.ingcogenesoc.org>.

Additional information about the Abrams Genealogy Seminar is available online at <http://www.michigan.gov/familyhistory>. Questions? Please contact the Library at (517) 373-1300, or by e-mail at [librarian@michigan.gov](mailto:librarian@michigan.gov).

We hope to see everyone here for a fantastic seminar.

## 2008 Library of Michigan Genealogy Appreciation Award Announced

Shirley Hodges will be presented with the 2008 Library of Michigan Genealogy Appreciation Award at the 2008 Abrams Genealogy Seminar on Saturday, July 26. Shirley has been actively doing genealogical research since 1967. She has taught family history classes and seminars in the United States and Canada since 1994 and has served as a guest lecturer for several college-level programs since the mid-1990s. Although she has focused much of her research on tracing female ancestors, she covers a wide variety of topics aimed at both the novice and advanced genealogical researcher. Shirley is currently serving as the president of the Genealogical Speakers Guild. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, National Genealogical Society and numerous other state and local societies.



*2008 Library of Michigan Genealogy Appreciation Award winner Shirley Hodges*

"Shirley is a great advocate of the Library of Michigan," said Randy Riley, special collections manager at the Library of Michigan. "When speaking to out-of-state audiences or at national conferences, Shirley often functions as an ambassador of the Library. She praises our staff and collections, and actively encourages researchers to visit Lansing to take advantage of the Library's collection."

Shirley has long viewed the Library of Michigan as her "home" collection. In the past she has readily volunteered her time to assist the Library by providing presentations or promoting various events. Besides being a well-respected researcher, she is an outspoken supporter of the Library of Michigan's Abrams Foundation Historical Collection.

The Library of Michigan Genealogical Appreciation Award is sponsored by the Library of Michigan and the Library of Michigan Foundation annually as a way to recognize and thank the genealogical community in Michigan. Past winners

include Dr. Joseph Druse, Ruth Lewis, Barbara Brown, J. William “Bill Gorski, Peggy Sawyer Williams and John Castle. For more information, visit the Library’s Web site at <http://www.michigan.gov/familyhistory> or call (517) 373-1300.

## Library of Michigan Staff Across the State

Library of Michigan staff members will be presenting the following programs at various venues this summer and early fall:

- July 17      Randy Riley presents **“Discovering the Library of Michigan’s Abrams Foundation Historical Collection”**  
*Grand Traverse Area Genealogical Society, Traverse City*
- July 25      Edwina Morgan presents **“Finding Revolutionary War Ancestors at the Library of Michigan”**  
*Abrams Genealogy Seminar, Library of Michigan, Lansing*
- July 25      Randy Riley presents **“Genealogical Research at the Library of Michigan”**  
*Abrams Genealogy Seminar, Library of Michigan, Lansing*
- July 26      Charles Hagler presents **“City Directories as Research Tools”**  
*Abrams Genealogy Seminar, Library of Michigan, Lansing*
- July 26      Gloriane Peck presents **“Your Best Find: Share Your Success Stories”**  
*Abrams Genealogy Seminar, Library of Michigan, Lansing*
- July 26      Kris Rzepczynski presents **“Seeking Michigan Death Records? A New Digitization Project”**  
*Abrams Genealogy Seminar, Library of Michigan, Lansing*
- Sept. 19-20      Kris Rzepczynski presents **“Polish Genealogy Research in the Wolverine State”**  
*Polish Genealogical Society of America Annual Conference, Schaumburg, Ill.*
- Sept. 27      Gloriane Peck presents **“Vital Signs: Birth, Marriage and Death Records on the Web”**  
*Detroit Public Library Family History Festival, Detroit*
- Sept. 27      Kris Rzepczynski presents **“Seeking Michigan Records? A New Digitization Project”**  
*Detroit Public Library Family History Festival, Detroit*

# What's New at the Library of Michigan?

by Charles Hagler, reference librarian

Do you want to know what new Michigan and genealogy materials have been added to the Library of Michigan's collection? Access ANSWER, our online catalog, at <http://answercat.org>. You can search for new Michigan and genealogy books each month by clicking on the "Check for New Books" button at the bottom of the ANSWER home page.

Please note, many of our genealogical resources are part of the non-circulating collection and are only available for on-site use at the Library. ANSWER does not provide access to periodical articles, microforms or CD-ROM and Internet databases, but does indicate the location and call number where the item can be found in the Library of Michigan.

Here are a few notable titles that have arrived since the last issue of *Michigan Genealogist*:

*Index to Pension Application Files of Remarried Widows Based on Service in the Civil War and Later Wars and in the Regular Army After the Civil War.* 7 reels. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1993.

**Microfilm UB 370 .I5 1993**

Palmer, P. Dian. *Name Index to the Missing Air Crew Reports of the United States Army Air Forces, 1942-47.* 137 reels. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2000.

**Microfilm D 810 .D4 P35 2000**

United States. National Archives and Records Administration. *Record Cards of Letter Carriers Separated from the Postal Service, 1863-1899.* 3 reels. Washington, D.C.: Malcolm H. Stern-NARA Gift Fund and National Archives and Records Administration, 2000.

**Microfilm HE 6499 .U74 2000**

Roberts, Gary Boyd. *The Royal Descents of 600 Immigrants to the American Colonies or the United States: Who Were Themselves Notable or Left Descendants Notable in American History with a 2008 Addendum, Coda and Final Addition.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2008.

**Genealogy CS 55 .R63 2008**



# Researching the Politician in Your Past

by Gloriane Peck, special collections librarian

Many Americans claim a politician or two in their family tree, and there's a good amount of primary and secondary information available about these ancestors. From small-town judges to U.S. senators, these folks helped shape our local and national landscape, and, fortunately for genealogists, left plenty of information for us to sift through.

A wonderful starting point for researching politicians is The Political Graveyard, <http://politicalgraveyard.com/>. This Web site features biographical information on 138,150 politicians, judges and diplomats. Browse by alphabetical listing; offices held or sought; date or year of birth, marriage or death; state and county of birth or death; and more. The Political Graveyard is especially helpful for those with little information. If you know only the name and that the ancestor served in politics, The Political Graveyard is the place to go. Here you'll find a jumping-off point for further research, as the site will likely include positions and dates served, at the very least. Entries on The Political Graveyard vary in length and depth. This entry for a Michigan judge is an example of a brief entry:

"Holmes, John T. - of Grand Rapids, Kent County, Mich. Superior court judge in Michigan of Grand Rapids, 1877-81. Burial location unknown."  
(<http://politicalgraveyard.com/bio/holmes.html>)

Now armed with a location, position held and years of service, we can go further in researching Judge Holmes. Many early county history books include biographies of local leaders, and the *History of Kent County* delivers with a biography of John T. Holmes. This book is available at the Library of Michigan, through MeLCat – the statewide library catalog and borrowing service at <http://mel.org> – and through interlibrary loan. Look for it in ANSWER, the Library's catalog, which is online at <http://www.answercat.org>. In addition, this book is available online through the Michigan County Histories and Atlases Web site, <http://www.hti.umich.edu/m/micounty/>.

The Political Graveyard boasts more extensive entries as well. A great example is the write-up on Edwin Denby, who represented Detroit in the Legislature and later in Congress. In addition to political party and occupation, the biography includes the date and place of his birth and death; date of marriage and the name of his wife; military service, political positions held and terms served; religion; society memberships and burial place. Providing a connection to previous generations, the biography states that Denby was the grandson of fellow politician Graham Newell Fitch, son of politician Charles Harvey Denby and brother of politician Charles Denby, with links to each of their entries on The Political Graveyard. (<http://politicalgraveyard.com/bio/dempster-denious.html>)

A government resource, The Biographical Directory of the United States Congress (<http://bioguide.congress.gov/>) has information on members of Congress from 1774 to today, including an entry with even more information on Edwin Denby. This biography adds details not provided at The Political Graveyard, including that Denby worked for

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the Chinese imperial maritime customs service from 1887 to 1894, and that he was president of the Detroit Board of Commerce in 1916 and 1917. (<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=D000232>)

Print resources offer a wealth of information as well. The *Michigan Biography Index* by Francis Loomis is a 10-volume index to a number of historical biographies. Index entries for individual biographies are included if the biography is five lines or longer. The *Michigan Biography Index* has entries for both John T. Holmes and Edwin Denby that refer to other sources for biographical information. Each man is referenced in legal publications and in several local histories and biographical compilations.

The *Michigan Manual* (Michigan Documents JK 5830 .A32) is the definitive source for information on Michigan politicians. Published biennially by the Legislature, this guide to Michigan government has political biographies, election results, district maps, and state agency and commission information. The 1903 *Michigan Manual* offers still more information on Edwin Denby, with a sentence in his biography stating, "He was elected to the legislature of 1903-04 on the general legislative ticket, receiving 22,218 votes to 20,771 for William Stacey, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes on the democratic ticket." (p. 796)

There are several ways to locate a biography in the *Michigan Manual*, including checking the index of an individual *Michigan Manual* for the year of interest, the *Michigan Biography Index* and *Biography Index to the Michigan Manuals, 1923-1973* (Genealogy Desk, Michigan Collection JK 5830 .A32 Index). Another resource is *Michigan Biographies* (Michigan Documents F 565 .M62 1924), published in 1924 by the Michigan Historical Commission. This two-volume set brings together information from several sources, including the *Michigan Manual*.

The Library's extensive collection of Michigan newspapers on microfilm also will be helpful in researching prominent ancestors such as politicians. To see a list of the Library's newspaper holdings by county, please go to <http://www.michigan.gov/family-history> and click the link to Michigan Newspapers in the left rail. Or go directly to the list at [http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17449\\_18643\\_29527--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17449_18643_29527--,00.html).

Of course, government documents, such as House and Senate journals, are a key resource for researching these ancestors. *Sources of Legislative History*, a publication of Michigan's Legislative Service Bureau, is online at [http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17449\\_18639\\_18656-52439--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17449_18639_18656-52439--,00.html). This publication offers an overview of this type of research and the materials involved. The House and Senate journals, Public and Local Acts, and other resources are available in the Library's Michigan Documents collection.

# Military Records from the United States Government, Part 2: Records Held by the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration

by Leelyn Johnson, federal documents and reference coordinator

Most genealogists know that military records offer valuable information on veterans and members of their families. The federal government has records of military service of the volunteer enlisted men and officers beginning in 1775. The article “An Overview of Records at the National Archives Relating to Military Service” (see link below) is an excellent source on how to research records of the different military branches.

Military records housed in the National Archives include:

**Compiled Service Records:** These contain card abstracts taken from muster rolls, returns, pay vouchers and other records and provide the ancestor's rank, unit, date mustered in and mustered out, and basic biographical, medical and military information.

**Pension Applications and Pension Payment Records:** For veterans, their widows and other heirs. These are based on service between 1775 and 1916. These files have the most genealogical information as they may include discharge papers, narratives of events during service, marriage certificates, birth records, death certificates, pages from family bibles and other supporting papers.

**Bounty Land Warrant Application Files:** These relate to claims based on wartime service between 1775 and March 3, 1855. They contain documents similar to those in pension files, and many of these have been combined with the pension files.

There are general name indexes for the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, early Indian Wars, Mexican War, Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection available on National Archives microfilm. Indexes for Civil War records are by state. Some of the combined military service records have been microfilmed. You will find a list of microfilmed name indexes and compiled service records in the National Archives' *Microfilm Resources for Research: A Comprehensive Catalog*. Researchers may request to see the original records at the National Archives if they have not been microfilmed.

The link to National Archive's Web page, “Requesting Copies of Older (pre-WWI) Military Service Records,” is <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/pre-ww-1-records.html#nwctb-list>. The page has links for downloading forms or ordering records online.



## Sources available at the Library of Michigan

*Compiled Military Service Records of Michigan and Illinois Volunteers Who Served During the Winnebago Indian Disturbances, 1867 i.e. [1827].* Washington, D.C.: National Archives, National Archives and Records Administration, 1988.

**Microfilm E 83.866 .C6 1988 r.1-3**

*General Index to Compiled Military Service Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers.* Washington, D.C.: National Archives, National Archives and Record Service, General Services Administration, 1972.

**Microfilm E 255 .G36 1972 r.1-58**

*Military Service Records: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications.*

Washington, D.C.: National Archives Trust Fund Board, National Archives and Service Administration, 1985.

**Genealogy CD 3033 1985**

Neagles, James C. *U.S. Military Records: A Guide to Federal and State Sources, Colonial America to the Present.* Salt Lake City: Ancestry Inc., 1994.

Genealogy E 181 .N43 1994

Plante, Trevor K. *Military Service Records at the National Archives.* Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2007.

**Genealogy CD 3023 .A35 no.109 c.2 and US DOCS AE 1.124:109**

## Sources on the Web

National Archives: Genealogy Research in Military Records

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/research/genealogy.html>

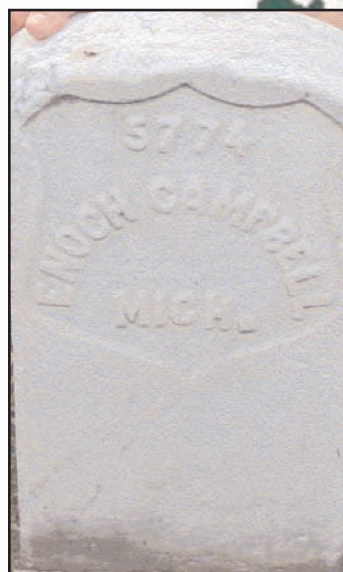
Plante, Trevor K. "An Overview of Records at the National Archives Relating to Military Service." *Prologue*. Vol. 34, No. 3, Fall 2002.

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/research/prologue-military-records-overview.html>

## Genealogy from a Stone

by Edwina Morgan, special collections librarian

There is an American Civil War tombstone in the Bahamas that is something of a mystery, as no one knows how it came to rest at that location. However, this stone contains enough information to learn more about the soldier than it was intended to represent. The name on the stone is Enoch Campbell – number 5774, serving from Michigan – and with that information, a genealogical search is possible. In order to discover more about this person, it was important to find out in which regiment he served for Michigan.



*Tombstone of Enoch Campbell, Nassau, Bahamas*



The best place to start is the *Michigan Soldiers and Sailors Index* or the American Civil War Soldiers database on Ancestry Library Edition.<sup>i</sup> Both sources indicate that Enoch Campbell enlisted as a private on Aug. 5, 1861 at the age of 29 and died of disease on June 12, 1862 in New Orleans. Further reading notes that Enoch was in the 6<sup>th</sup> Michigan Regiment, Heavy Artillery, Company B, which was under the command of Brigadier General Thomas Williams, originally of Detroit.<sup>ii</sup> The general's letters to his wife indicate that on June 12, the day of Enoch's death, the 6<sup>th</sup> was in Baton Rouge. However, the regiment had already advanced to Vicksburg, Miss., on May 22, and sick and wounded were transported back to New Orleans, as that town and Baton Rouge were held by Union forces.<sup>iii</sup> Whether Enoch Campbell fell ill already in New Orleans or advanced to Vicksburg, it is reasonable to believe that he fell ill and died in southern Louisiana.<sup>iv v</sup>

The United States Department of Veteran Affairs has made available a database of nationwide gravesites, which has a listing for Enoch Campbell.<sup>vi</sup> His entry states that he was of the Michigan 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company B and was buried at site 5774 in the Chalmette National Historical Park on Saint Bernard Highway in Chalmette, La., just outside of New Orleans. The Chalmette Battlefield and National Cemetery's Web site does not have a transcribed list for the cemetery, but given the intense interest, I suspected that some organization had done such work, and that hunch turned out to be correct. The United States Civil War Center, affiliated with the Louisiana State University, has created and made available their Chalmette National Cemetery Union Database. Enoch's listing was found by a fast alphabetical search.<sup>vii</sup> The entry specifies a Civil War burial; his rank, regiment and company; and that he is located in section 71, grave number 5774, as indicated on the stone in the Bahamas as well as in the Department of Veterans Affairs database. However, it also states, under remarks, "From Cypress Grove LA." There is, in fact, a Cypress Grove Cemetery in the heart of New Orleans.<sup>viii</sup> A fast scan of other soldiers listed shows that many entries have the same remark in the note field, indicating that perhaps those bodies had been moved to the national cemetery.

A quick scan of the other soldiers listed in Michigan's 6<sup>th</sup>, Company B notes a James Campbell who enlisted in the same town, Saint Joseph, as Enoch.<sup>ix</sup> In the 1850 Michigan census, an Enoch Campbell, born in Ontario, was listed as living in Allegan.<sup>x</sup> By 1860, the same individual is listed in Keeler in Van Buren County, which is where the younger James Campbell was listed with his nuclear family in the 1850 census.<sup>xi</sup> In 1850, a James and Pamilia Campbell, both of New York, headed the family with nine children, all born in Ontario. Based on the age of the children, we can tell that the family moved to Michigan no sooner than 1847 and is the likely family of Enoch Campbell. Birth records prior to 1869 are not readily available for Ontario, and as the couple were both from New York, it is likely that their marriage occurred in that state.

Working with census records, county directories and death certificates located within the Library of Michigan, it was found that Enoch's mother's maiden name was Rider.<sup>xii</sup> A fast search of Riders in Jefferson County, N. Y., just across from Niagara District, in 1830 listed several Rider families but only one located in Pamelia, headed by a Samuel Rider.<sup>xiii</sup> A search of the 1850 Michigan census for Riders who had been born in New York resulted in no less than three families in Keeler, Van Buren County.<sup>xiv</sup> An Enoch Rider, William Rider and Samuel Rider headed those families. All three heads of

households had been born and married in New York with the exception of Samuel Rider, who had been married in Ontario. Based on the birth location and ages of their children, all three Rider families moved from Ontario to Michigan between 1845 and 1848, or in the same time frame as the James and Pamela Campbell family. From the census records it appears that Enoch was named after his uncle and had a younger cousin by the same name.

Previous searches for the Campbell family in Ontario had proven to be unhelpful due to the number of families with the same surname and the fact that indexed vital records are scarce for the time period needed. However, a search for an Enoch Rider in Ancestry Library Edition, available at the Library of Michigan, had a citation of him being listed in the *Brant County Registers, Grace Anglican Church, Brantford, Marriages Vol. 1, 1827-1846* by June Bragg. The same citation listed a Samuel Rider, a William Rider and a James Campbell, indicating a potential location for the families in Ontario between 1828 and 1848.

With a potential location and parish, it may be possible to locate primary documents proving where the family lived.<sup>xv</sup> In *Vital Records in Ontario Before 1869*, the author notes that Brant County records were held in both the Gore and London Districts for the time period needed.<sup>xvi</sup> The author also lists the Canadian National Archives and Latter-day Saints film numbers for such records available.

Even more potentially helpful may be the Brantford tax records from 1847. A search of the PERSI index, available on Heritage Quest, provided a citation for the “Brantford Assessment Roll, 1847,” published in the *Branches* periodical (September 1999, issue 3). Such a source may act as a census for both the Campbells and Riders prior to their moving to Michigan.<sup>xvii</sup>

The military records of Enoch Campbell and his brother James have not yet been fully researched.<sup>xviii</sup> Further searching for his sibling’s vital records may be helpful, as more information was recorded as time passed. In no way have census documents been fully exploited, nor have the church records where the family is known to have resided. Last, given the families’ Empire State origins, the New England Historic Genealogical Society’s collection of databases may be consulted in search of early Campbell and Rider families in Jefferson, N.Y.

<sup>i</sup> Alphabetical General Index To Public Library Sets of 85,271 Names of Michigan Soldiers and Sailors Individual Records. Okemos, MI: M.A. Hogle, 1984. Library of Michigan, Genealogy Index Table E514.3 .A583z 1984 .

<sup>ii</sup> *Alphabetical General Index To Public Library Sets of 85,271 Names of Michigan Soldiers and Sailors Individual Records*. Okemos, MI: M.A. Hogle, 1984. Library of Michigan, Genealogy Index Table E514.3 .A583z 1984.

<sup>iii</sup> See: <http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/chron/civilwarnotes/williamst.html>

<sup>iv</sup> Williams, Gersham Mott, “Letters of General Thomas Williams, 1862,” *American Historical Review* 14 (1909) 304-328.

<sup>v</sup> His presumed cousin, William Rider, enlisted in the Michigan 12<sup>th</sup> Regiment on December 7<sup>th</sup> 1861, yet died before leaving Michigan.

<sup>vi</sup> Both of his parents died in 1857 in Berrien County and are buried at Byers Cemetery. Weir, Mrs. Victor and Mr. and Mrs. Victor Reisig, *Cemetery Records Of Bainbridge Township and Baroda Township In Berrien County, Michigan*, St. Joseph, MI: Genealogical Association of Southwest Michigan, 1973. Library of Michigan, Michigan Collection, F 572 .B5 W48z

<sup>vii</sup> [http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/j2ee/servlet/NGL\\_v1](http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/j2ee/servlet/NGL_v1)

viii <http://www.cwc.lsu.edu/cwc/projects/dbases/chalmette/chalc.htm>

ix <http://www.greenwoodnola.com/cypress.php>

x Ancestry Library Edition, Library of Michigan, *American Civil War Regiments* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 1999.

xi 1850; Census, *Allegan, Allegan, Michigan*; Roll: M432\_346; Page: 27

xii Enoch, 1860; Census, *Keeler, Van Buren, Michigan*; Roll: M653\_562; Page:144. James, 1860; Census, *Bainbridge, Berrien, Michigan*; Roll: M653\_537; Page:47.

Campbell family, 1850; Census, *Keeler, Van Buren, Michigan*; Roll: M432\_363; Page: 140.

xiii John Campbell, sibling, 1880 census, Bainbridge, Berrien Michigan; Roll T9\_572, page 55. 1892 Berrien County Michigan Directory, Bainbridge Township, Farmer, Section 35, 167 acres, Value, \$2100 Page 438. John died November 19, 1899 Bainbridge Township, Berrien County.

xiv 1830; Census, Pamela, Jefferson, New York; Roll: 92; Page: 242

xv 1850; Census, Keeler, Van Buren, Michigan; Roll: M432\_363; Page: 141.

xvi <http://www.graceanglican.net/welcome/history.html>

xvii Statford-Devai, Fawne. *Vital Records In Ontario Before 1869*. Milton, ON: Global Heritage Press, 2003. Genealogy F 1057.5 S77 2003.

xviii See: [www.mel.org](http://www.mel.org) from your home computer

xix A good start may be the National Archives records found at: <http://www.footnote.com> available at the Library of Michigan

xx <http://www.newenglandancestors.org/>, available at no cost at the Library of Michigan

## A Conversation with Genealogist and Genealogy Collection Supporter Patrick Madziar

by Judith K. Moore, CFRE, executive director of the Library of Michigan Foundation

Patrick Madziar retired from his job as a transmission designer in General Motors' engineering department two years ago. A Bay City native, he and his family have lived in Ypsilanti for 17 years. Pat attended his first genealogy workshop at the Library of Michigan in 2001 and soon became a donor of the Library of Michigan Foundation to support the Genealogy Collection. Foundation director Judith Moore caught up with him recently:



*Patrick Madziar recently spoke to the Library of Michigan Foundation's Judith Moore about his experience with family history research and why he supports the Foundation's efforts*

*What got you interested in family research?*

My father died eight years ago. Suddenly, I realized how much information I had lost with his passing and decided to do something about it.

*How much time to you devote to your research?*

For me it is mostly a winter activity. When the weather gets nice, my wife and I get out on our bicycles. We love it. We love riding the backcountry roads, going through the small towns and communities. Right now we are riding 10 miles every day, training for the P.A.L.M (Peddle Across Lower Michigan) Race. The race starts on Lake Michigan and ends on the east side, in Monroe. It takes five and a half days to complete.

*continued*



*How often do you visit the Library of Michigan, and what other libraries have you used?*

I'm there once a month, all day. The Library of Michigan and the Archives have provided everything I need. I've also visited the University of Michigan's Bentley Collection to learn the historical background around my grandfather's fight in Russia during World War I. Home access to Ancestry.com also helps a great deal. I now look forward to the new death records database that will be available on the Library of Michigan's Web site soon. That's going to be really helpful.

*Have you found the Library of Michigan's genealogy workshops helpful?*

Yes, I especially remember one conducted by Kris (Rzeczyński) on Polish genealogy. That's a tough one to research and he did a great job. The *Michigan Genealogist* newsletter is also very good. I especially enjoyed a funny article about wives trying to keep their husbands out of the local saloons in the last issue!

*Do you remember any special 'discoveries' you made at the Library of Michigan?*

Genealogy is a gradual thing. We're looking for 'who was' and 'when.' I was interested in finding out why my family came to Bay City, and the library resources helped me better understand the heyday of the lumbering industry.

*What kinds of challenges have you encountered along the way?*

There haven't been any big challenges really. The key to what we do is perseverance. And the staff is always there to assist. For me, it works best if I prepare a to-do list ahead of my visit to the library. That helps me be productive. Then, during the drive home, it's time to think!

*Have you published any of your work?*

Yes, but not online. I've shared copies with my family and they really appreciated it.

*So, what's next?*

I'm still collecting background information on the second side of the family and next it'll be my wife's family, on the Canadian side. The Library of Michigan (collection) ought to be able to help with that!

*Do you share your passion for genealogy with your family?*

No, they have no interest at all. My kids are busy raising children. And you either have the bug or you don't!

*Why is it important for you to support the Library of Michigan Foundation?*

To me, the Library of Michigan is like public radio. It's educational and accessible to everyone, and it needs private support. The Library of Michigan is a real treasure. I'm also extremely pleased with the staff. It is very important that we support the Foundation so it can help the library stay current and viable.

Each year the Library of Michigan Foundation asks donors and library patrons to make a gift to its annual campaign. If you value what the Library of Michigan offers you and the people of Michigan, become a first-time donor or renew your gift today. Your gift is vital and represents an investment in quality library services, lifelong learning and important literary and cultural programs. Thank you for your support!



## The Library of Michigan Foundation

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The Foundation is an autonomous, non-profit 501 c (3) public charity governed by an independent board of directors. Gifts to the Library of Michigan Foundation are 100 percent tax deductible. We sincerely appreciate your support!

## Archives of Michigan and Michigan Historical Museum Present *The Picture Man: Lansing through the Lens of R. C. Leavenworth*

by Chris Dancisak, Michigan Historical Museum

Using a horse-drawn darkroom, R.C. Leavenworth started out photographing lumbering and mining camps in northern Michigan. In 1919, he moved to Lansing to document the city's transformation into an automobile manufacturing center, capturing images that tell the story of industry, business and social life in the state capital.

Through a collaborative effort between the Archives of Michigan and the Michigan Historical Museum, many of Leavenworth's images will now be available for public viewing in a new special exhibit entitled *The Picture Man: Lansing through the Lens of R.C. Leavenworth*.

The exhibit showcases one of the Archives of Michigan's major collections. Including an estimated 200,000 negatives, it is the largest and most comprehensive historical photograph collection of Lansing in existence, according to State Archivist Mark Harvey.

"The exhibit provides a glimpse of the collection's true hallmark—its wide scope—with subjects as diverse as street scenes, car parts, workers' strikes, vaudeville troupes and football games," said Harvey. "R.C. Leavenworth lived up to the slo-



*This idealistic California scene promises a lifestyle of ease and luxury with your 1934 Oldsmobile F-series Six. Oldsmobile thrived during the Great Depression and touted their cars as the leaders in style and value.*

*This image is from a rare Agfacolor glass screen plate in the Leavenworth historical photograph collection. Agfacolor produced one of the earlier types of color photographic plates. It was similar to the Autochrome process in which the glass plate overlays a mosaic of red, green and blue dyed resin grains. These grains act as tiny color filters that interpret color onto the emulsion. Our modern-day scanner is unable to justly reproduce the color tone of these plates, so come to the exhibit and see the plates illuminated in person!*

*continued*

gan plastered on the door of his company car: ‘Anything photographed, anywhere, anytime.’”

*The Picture Man* will run through Sept. 30 in the Michigan Historical Museum’s Special Exhibit Gallery. Admission is free, and the museum is open seven days a week.

The Michigan Historical Museum—the flagship of the Michigan Historical Museum System—is located inside the Michigan Library and Historical Center. For hours and complete program details, visit the museum online at [www.michigan.gov/museum](http://www.michigan.gov/museum).

## How History and Myths Sustain Lansing’s West Side

by Mark Harvey, state archivist

*Editor’s note: This article originally appeared in Lansing’s City Pulse newspaper (<http://www.lansingcitypulse.com>) on Nov. 8, 2006. It is part of a series of features, written by Archives of Michigan staff, that explores Lansing’s history.*

“Away from the Smoke and Dirt—yet in Lansing’s City Limits” read the headline of the *State Journal*’s home section on May 2, 1919. The article promoted the Espanore Subdivision, on the doorstep of the Durant Motor Co., later the Verlinden Plant and General Motors Corp.’s Lansing Car Assembly plant.

That year, the city was pushing hard for a decrease in the number of rental units. “Home Owning is City’s Slogan” was splashed across newspapers. The city partnered with developers to boost the percentage of home ownership to all-time highs. Owner-occupied homes represented nearly 80 percent of the housing stock. (Current figures are about 50 percent.)

The home-ownership movement put a moratorium on rental properties. Any new residents coming to the city faced one option—buying a home. The movement centered on creating a sense of community and place for the family. The same edition of the *State Journal* quotes an anonymous person as saying: “Chief among the considerations that should present themselves to the average family is the influence of home on children. The spirit of pride in the home and family, one of the strongest elements in character building, is fostered and enhanced only when there is a real home, a permanent home, one that children can regard as ‘our home.’”

To promote home ownership, city leaders even arranged with school superintendent J.W. Sexton to have children at all 18 Lansing schools write individual essays entitled, “Why you should own your own home.” Cash prizes were awarded for the best essays, and the finalists were published in the *State Journal*.

Both the Espanore and Westmoreland subdivisions make up a portion of today's Westside Neighborhood. These subdivisions, platted in 1916, have maintained much of their original character and charm. Despite the lack of a historic district designation, owners have understood the importance such a neighborhood has for both Lansing's future and its past.

The land had been a farm for decades before its owner sold it to Standard Realty and the Dyer-Jenison-Barry Land Co. All that remained was an old cattle barn, according to author Birt Darling in his history of Lansing, *City in the Forest*. This new development became a pseudo-suburb—new homes built on former farmland, yet within walking distance of the Capitol.

The neighborhood's original inhabitants seemed to have a grasp on history. One of the first occupants, George N. Fuller, helped create the state's Michigan Historic Commission, which later became the Archives of Michigan. Fuller and his wife lived in their Genesee Street home most of their lives. But after they died, the home fell into disrepair to the point of being condemned by the city. But Fuller's grandchildren intervened and saved the home. "The historical significance of the home was too important to let go," George Smith, Fuller's grandson, said in an interview.

The neighborhood has its share of myths. One of the longest standing questions is that of the home on Osborn Road known as the "Governor's Mansion." It seems the story got legs from Darling's book. In it, Darling wrote about the property near the Verlinden Plant, including a reference to the "Osborn Mansion at 1715 Osborn Road." But a search of property records, city directories and fire insurance atlases shows no supporting evidence for the "mystery mansion"—nor does that address even exist.

Gov. Chase Osborn served from 1911 to 1912. During that time, he lived at 615 S. Grand Ave. His neighbor at 616 S. Grand was Dr. Samuel Osborn (no known relation). After losing his bid for re-election, Gov. Osborn hastened back to his beloved Sault Ste. Marie. According to biographies and city directory records, he kept his permanent residence in the Sault. So where did this "governor's mansion" come from?

A quick trip to the register of deeds solves the mystery of the property. Gov. Osborn purchased part of the farmland near Verdlinden in 1911. Once subdivided in 1916, Gov. Osborn began selling lots, and deeded the "mystery mansion" lot to his oldest daughter, Ethel Osborn Ferguson.

In 1919, Ethel Ferguson sold the vacant lot to investors, who in turn sold it to Dr. Osborn. Dr. Osborn sold the vacant lot to John Lilley, a production manager for Oldsmobile. The home was first listed in the 1920 city directory. Lilley stayed until 1937. After a few changes in ownership, the present owner bought the house in 1955.

The Gov. Osborn myth even drifted to the house next door. A local real estate company claims in a current sales listing that Gov. Osborn gave the neighboring house as a gift to his adopted daughter. But the promotions people got their Osborns confused; it was Samuel Osborn, not the governor, who owned the lots next door. He built a house there and lived on the property for decades.

(As an interesting aside, Michigan's governors had to fend for themselves when it came to housing. The state did not provide an official residence until 1969, when Gov. William Milliken moved into the Howard and Letha Sober residence on Oxford Drive. Even this move was controversial, as Sober, a known gambler, sold the home for \$1 but charged hundreds of thousands of dollars for the furnishings and extensive art collection.)

All homes have a story, not just the ones in the Espanore and Westmoreland subdivisions; Lansing has just guarded these homes and their stories better than others. Visit the Archives of Michigan or the Forest Parke Memorial Library in the Capital Area District Library's Downtown Library to learn more about the history of your home.

**Publisher's Note:**

The Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL) electronically publishes *Michigan Genealogist* on a quarterly basis. It is intended to provide family history-related information to interested researchers and to inform readers about resources found in the Library of Michigan, Archives of Michigan and other HAL departments.

We encourage wide distribution of this newsletter and invite readers to share it with their friends, families and fellow researchers. We have made every effort to provide accurate information. However, the publisher does not assume any liability to any party for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions related to any of the issues of *Michigan Genealogist*.

If you would like to be added to our list of e-mail subscribers, please contact HAL at [librarian@michigan.gov](mailto:librarian@michigan.gov).

**Driving Directions and Parking:**

Information concerning driving directions and parking can be located at the following Web sites.

Driving Directions: <http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-55205,00.html>

Parking: [http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17445\\_19274\\_20001--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17445_19274_20001--,00.html)

**Research:**

Due to the length of time needed to conduct genealogical research, the staff of the Library of Michigan and Archives of Michigan is unable to provide extensive research services. Check the Library of Michigan and Archives of Michigan's Web pages at <http://www.michigan.gov/library-ofmichigan> and <http://www.michigan.gov/archivesofmi> for more information on policies and procedures regarding genealogical research.

**Ask A Librarian:**

Genealogy queries can be sent to the Library of Michigan at [librarian@michigan.gov](mailto:librarian@michigan.gov). While staff members cannot do extensive research, they can point you in the right direction and assist you in determining if the library's collection contains the information you seek. If necessary, the library's staff will refer you to a researcher or local genealogical society that will conduct research for a fee. Questions relating to the Archives of Michigan should be sent to [archives@michigan.gov](mailto:archives@michigan.gov).